

Remarks

The Examiner has indicated that claims 5, 6, 8, 10, 21, 26 and 27 are allowable and that claim 16 is objected to, but that claims 2, 3, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 24 & 25 are rejected.

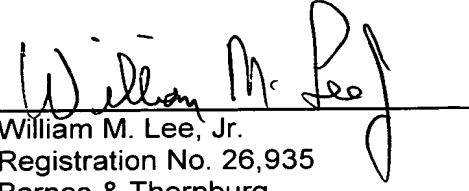
Claims 2, 3, 12, 15, 16, 24 & 25 have been cancelled and that claim 14 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of both claims 15 & 16 thereby rendering it allowable. Claims 18 & 19 have been retained since they are now dependent on an allowable claim (claim 14). Consequently, claims 5, 6, 8, 10, 14, 18, 19, 24 & 25 which remain pending in the application are now in order for allowance.

New claims 28 to 33 have been added. New claims 28, 29 & 32 relate to the embodiment of the invention described with reference to and depicted by a combination of figures 4 & 6 of the drawings whereas new claims 30, 31 & 33 relate to the embodiment of the invention depicted by a combination of figures 5 & 6 of the drawings. It is submitted that neither Ota nor Hortensuis either taken singly or in combination disclose or suggest the present invention as defined by new claims 28 to 33.

Given the above, it is submitted that the entire application, as amended, is in condition for allowance, and such action by the Examiner is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,


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